

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

**Please insert the following paragraph beginning on page 7, line 8 as follows:**

FIG. 4a is a side perspective view of another embodiment of an open-chambered spacer.

**Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 13 as follows:**

As illustrated in FIG. 4a, in some embodiments, the wall 506 may include upper and lower flattened portions 507, 508 to stabilize the dowel by neutralizing any rotational torque that may be induced by pressure on the sidewall. This could be achieved by reducing the height H of the sidewall ~~505~~ 506 and ends 501, 502 by filing or like means. These considerations may be less important for a threaded dowel than a non-threaded dowel as the threads tend to "bite" into the bone in which they are implanted, thereby preventing any rotation.